



State of Arizona
Department of Education

Diane Douglas
Superintendent of
Public Instruction

September, 2014

PLEASE FORWARD TO APPROPRIATE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT STAFF

Dear Superintendent/Charter Holder or Principal:

We are continuing to enhance your ability to conduct data-based planning in your schools and district. The Arizona Department of Education and Learning Forward (formerly the National Staff Development Council) are working together for the eighth year to give Arizona school districts an opportunity to both review their professional development (PD) programs and meet reporting requirements for the numerous federal/state programs in which they participate. This service is being offered **AT NO COST TO SCHOOLS OR DISTRICTS.**

Learning Forward has developed and validated an on-line survey for schools and school districts to use to assess perceptions of the conditions that support effective staff development for teachers. The Web-based survey, completed anonymously, takes approximately 15–20 minutes of teacher time; yet yields extremely valuable data on various aspects of the existing professional development program, including the perceived context, process and content of your current offerings. In addition, you will be able to use the report of results as a supplement or in its entirety to fulfill requirements to assess PD needs for Title I, Title II, Title III, gifted, Early Childhood, and Math and Science partnerships, just to name a few.

Approximately 800 schools administer the Standards Assessment Inventory to over 20,000 teachers. Leaders of these districts and their schools have looked closely at the data generated by the survey and have a more informed view of teachers' perceptions of the conditions that support professional learning in their district. Rich conversations between administrators and teachers are occurring as they collaborate on ways to increase teacher learning daily, resulting in greater student achievement. The results are to be used for formative assessment and planning purposes only. Arizona Department of Education offers support in using the data for subsequent planning through training modules and follow up consultations.

This message to all Superintendents/Charter Holders and Principals is intended to alert you to a noteworthy opportunity. If you would like to make use of this resource and receive access to the survey for your teachers, please send an email request to PDInbox@azed.gov.

Sincerely,

Eric Brooks
Director
Effective Teachers and Leaders Unit
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